

REMARKS

The office action of December 30, 2003, has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

In the prior Action, claims 1-30 were pending. Claims 1-30 remain pending and no new claims are added.

Claims 1-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over the combination of Rivette and Strahorn. Applicants traverse.

Claim 1 recites:

“navigating directly to said at least one other annotation of said at least one other object.”

The Examiner notes that Rivette navigates between sub-notes via objects, not directly as claimed.

The Examiner now cites Strahorn to show “efficient navigation of help sub-notes by direct navigation between the sub-notes” and referring to Figure 3 and column 4, lines 8-30 and 45-59.

However, Strahorn does not show the navigation of sub-notes as suggested by the Examiner. Rather, the navigation (by forward and back buttons 305 (and home button 302) relates instead to navigation of “active page display section 304”. The active page display section shows the navigation of a standard HTML page, see column 3, lines 27-32, column 4, lines 4-8, and column 8, lines 8-14. In short, the navigation controls relate to the navigation between web pages, not annotations or notes relating to web pages. Applied to Rivette, the combination would be then the navigation of objects from Rivette by control buttons from Strahorn. As the combination fails to teach or suggest all recitations of claim 1, claim 1 is allowable over the combination.

The dependent claims are allowable for at least these reasons.

Claim 25 recites, *inter alia*:

“said processor permitting navigating directly to said at least one
other annotation of said at least one other object...”

For the reasons set forth above, the combination fails to teach or suggest claim 25 as amended.

Claim 28 recites, *inter alia*:

“said third data field being accessed when a processor directly
navigates to annotations stored in said second data field.”

For the reasons set forth above, the combination fails to teach or suggest claim 28 as amended.

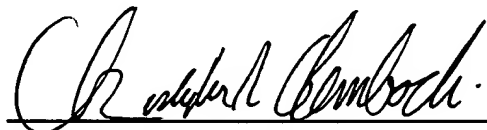
The claims dependent on claims 25 and 28 are believed allowable for similar reasons as set forth above.

Applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner feels, however, that further amendment and/or discussion may be helpful in facilitating prosecution of the case, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at the number appearing below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 30, 2004

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